

14
THE
HISTORIE OF
Titana, and
Theseus.

VERIE PLEASANT FOR AGE TO
auoyd drowfie thoughts: profitable for
youth to eschew wanton pastimes:
so that to both, it brings the
minde content.

Written by W. B.



LONDON,
Printed by T. C. for Thomas Panier, and are to be solde
at his shop in Cornhill, neare the
Exchange. 1603.



*Humphrie Cornibie: VV. B. wisheth all ioy,
and happinesse, in this world, and in the world
to come, life euerlasting.*

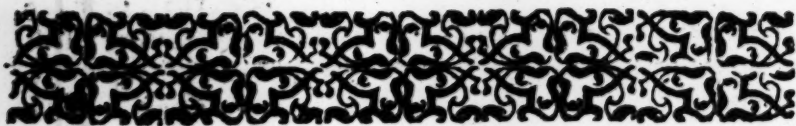


Ight Worshipfull (euer since my childish
yeares, were adopted, with that mutuall
sence of seeing, and imbolned with your fa-
uourable smiles; I presumed to suruey the
manyfolde fauours, that I found written in
the Margent of your loue; (which seeing)
I find my selfe so deep'y indebted to your
Worship, that although I should indeuour my selfe euen to the
last gaspe, yet were it impossible for me to deserue, or make
you restitution for the least of them: but as heeretofore I still
presume on your kindnesse, presenting your worship, the
frownes of Fortune, so rudely and roughly polished, that I
feare you will smile with *Alexander* at the crooked deformitie
of *Vulcan*: yet sometimes the minde is as well pleased to heare
of *Pans* homely fancies, as of *Hercules* renowned labours;
Homer write verses as well on *Irus* the Beggar, as *Eurimachus*
the Woer: *Apollo* giues Oracles as well to the poore man for
his mite, as to the rich for his treasure: *Darius* as well receiued
the rough vnpolisht coullers of *Mison*, as the curious pictures
of *Apelles*. Therefore I beseech you, to shroud this imperfect
Pamphlet, vnder your Worships patronage: assuring my selfe
that your Worships learned education, and vertuous dispositi-
on, will be a sufficient defence to protect me from the enuious
tongues of the schorning Sicophants, and hoping as *Insper*
and his Sonne, vouchsafed to lie in *Philemons* poore Cottage: so.

The Epistle Dedicatorie.

I hope your Worship will excuse my slender skill, and except
of my willing minde, and when you haue given them a fauou-
rable view, with *Minerva* vnder your golden Target couer a
deformed Owle, so hoping for more then yet I haue deserued,
I rest: wishing you the happie successe of harts content, where
I leaue you to the Heauens disposing.

*Your Worships most dutifull
and euer bounden W. Bettie.*





THE HISTORIE of Titana, and Theseus.



*I*n Greece, there dwelt a mightie King, called Aegeus, who had reigned fiftie yeares; fortunate, and successe in all his warlike affaires: that through the puissance of his force to his foes, and bountifull curtille, to his friends; he was feared in hate, and embraced in love. This Aegeus had one onely Sonne, whose name was Theseus, who was by birth Royall, learned by education, by nature valorous, and by Vertues famous: in so much that it was hard to iudge whether his Valour, Fortune, or Vertue, wonne the greatest praise.

This young Prince, being so richly adorne with the rare feats, and accomplishments of Chivalrie, that he did not only enjoy his fathers love, but also worne his Subjects hearts: at that instant, there liued Meleagar, King of Acchaia, not farre distant from the Court of Aegeus, who had a Daughter, a faire young Virgin, whose name was Titana, her vertuous dispositions were such, as might iustly challenge more love, then the world could yeild her: for her beantie was such, as it tainted Venus chaires, her vertue shadowed Dianes Altars, her learning rayned sacred Pallas, & her loyaltie was such,

The Historie of

such as it quite surpass Penelope: how can the world then extoll these excellent gifts of Nature, to the high sphere of their deserts, being so exquisitely limitted, and so lovingly applauded by their Subjects reports, but by committing them, to those glittering creatures, enclosed within the spangled skies, where wee leave them to the Heavens disposing, and turne to Meleagar her father: who in his youth had bene brought up with Aegeus, and was his Schoole-fellow; so as they had bene Schoole-fellows in their youth, they remained loving Neighbours in their age, maintaining course, and recourse, to and fro each others Courts, upholding golden amitie, with the pillars of Brotherly love, which did not only reioyce the Achaians, but also augment the *Grecians* love, with such inordinate, and extreme passions, that every yeare, upon the Kings Coronation day, the people throughout all *Greece*, and *Acchaia*, held a generall feast, for the space of forty daies, with Jests, and Turnies, with Munning, Wrestling, Leaping, and Dancing, with Bonfires, ringing of Bells, and such like pleasant pastimes: not onely to honour their two Kings, but also to shew their inward ioy, by their outward actions: as well to shew their Kings, their royall deserts, as their loyalty, being Subjects. When this solemn Triumph was quite ended, the people returned unto their former labour, and wonted course of life, where wee leave them, & turne to Theseus: who though but young in yeares, yet old in experience, though valourous with Hercules, yet not so venturous with Phaeton; though upheld with the wings of Fortune, yet not rash in flying with Icarus, but keeping lower bounds with Dedalus; he feared not the Thunderbolts of Ioue, nor yet the raging waues of Neptune: (well to be prized:)

Theseus, who had ever since he was able to harbour, or conceive one amorous thought, markt the excellencie of *Tirana*: behaviour, and the exquisite of her beautie, perswaded himselfe that she was matchlesse on earth: in so much, that at
last

Titana, and Theseus.

last he fell into passionate affections with Titana; and burst out his passions in these termes, being alone in a garden, sitting vnder an Orange Tree:

Oh Theseus thou that art a Kings sonne, and art applauded by the *Greekes*, to be the only champion of this climat, and wilt thou live a slave to Venus, confine and bard of libertie: no, no, cast off these foolish affections; for Theseus, surely thou dost not loze, these are but instant conceits, sweetned with honey, or fire made with straw, they are not Amozs of perfection.

Oh Theseus, flatter not thy selfe, thy heart doth feele the deadly wound of Cupids Dart: Oh, that blinde boy hath pierst it cleane through, like an Indian pearle: yet be chearfull Theseus, what needst thou feare, thou knowest the salve to cure thy amozous cozaffine; Titana, is a Kings Daughter, and she is by birth *Kopall*, learned by education, faire by Nature, by vertues famous, and by possessions rich: why then what needst thou feare, cast off these dispayning follies, and put on assuring fancies, for Cupid never throwes his Dart, but Venus takes the wound: why then Theseus, art thou a Prince, and a valiant Souldier, and wilt live thus perplexed with foolish loze, or a wound given by a Boy, expell such capital follies, as would include thee with ignominious conceits: when he had thus sufficiently explained his passions, & searcht the depenesse of his still bleeding wound, he takes his farewell of the Orange Tree, that shadowed him from the beames of Phœbus, & returnes to his chamber, where while leave him ruminating on his love, and torne to Titana: Who all this while, even from her infancie, had noted the princely gesture of Theseus, & seeing his face so perfectly featuere, and viewing each lim, the posture of his body so well limitted, that she greatly commended Dame Natures art, and excellencie in shadowing such perfection vnder her Fortunes lot; perswading her selfe, that none but Theseus should reape the harvest of her affection: being thus perplexed with inordinate passions, and posselt with amozous affection, it wrote like a pur-

The Historie of

gation with her, in so much that at last she brake her passions in these tearmes.

Ab Titana, (thou art in love) (3) with whom? with Theseus, (with Theseus,) he is a Kings sonne, why so art thou a Kings Daughter; he is famous by birth; thou art vertuous, and faire by Nature; he is a Prince; why thou art a Princess: thou every way art equivalent with him: (why thou) if thou louest Theseus, Theseus cannot chuse but love Titana: Ab Titana, thou fond soule, sigh, sob, and lament thee of thy follies, art thou so fond to thinke that Theseus being a valiant warrior, the *Grecians* champion, and heire apparant to that invincible King *Aegeus*; will love on thee: no, thou art not an object, fitting for his eyes; though thy vertuous qualities, be opposite to his valloxous accomplishments, yet he cannot love Titana: why? Titana is beautifull, vertuous, and rich, 3, & after her fathers decease heire to the Crowne of rich *Acchaia*: why then Titana, suppress these franticke passions, and incline to lonely affections, for doe thou but smile, he cannot chuse but love: well when she had thus at large, playd, and displayd her passionate affection, she returnes to her chamber, to be melancholy, where we leaue her.

Theseus, who had received such a deadly wound, thought it long untill he had some remedie for it, starts him up, from the embracements of his restless bed, and walkes towards the Court of *Meleager*: even at his approach within the Court gates, the clocke struck eight: quoth Theseus, it is too early daies to seeke to speake with Titana yet; He goe walke a course or tw about the Garden till the clocke strikes againe, and that I thinke will be about the time of Titanaes rising: he immediately turnes on the backe side of the Court, to enter into the Garden, but when he came he found the doore fast locked: yet fortune willing to favour his presence, would not suffer him to returne, but caused him to knocke, the which he did, and immediately it was opened by a Gentlewoman of Titanaes chamber: quoth Theseus, where is your Lady and mistress, sitting

Titana, and Theseus.

3
stirring yet: quoth the Groom, and shall please your Highnes,
she sits alone at the further end of the Garden, a reading;
with that Theseus cast by his eye, and espied his lovely Par-
ramour: walking in the Garden bosome of Titana, he stept
into a Greene Arbour, which stood directly opposite against
her, and not farre distant from her, where he first viewed each
limmit, or proportion of her bodie: and then beganne he to
breake his passions: Ah Theseus: (ecce) see how her crim-
son lips, stand like two Pilgrimes, to adorne those vermilli-
an cheekes of hers, which like as the Adamant braves the
 Steele, so they brave thee to lone: Poy behold her christall eyes
how like to vnestimable Diamonds, they glitter and giue
light to the out-shanted Cynthia: now last of all, see how farre
her swined lockes, doth surpass the Arabian gold, in golden
beantie: when he had thus breathed out his passions in these
passionate tearmes; he stands a while commenting in this
dull perplexitie, yet at last beginnes to prosecute his passions
with these tearmes.

Theseus, thou seest her excellencie, perfection, and beantie,
why then make a mixture with these, and thy insire love, and
drinke them as a phisicke potion, either to cure, or kill, and so
shalt thou be sure to be eased by death, effected to life, for in
love there is life, in hate there is death, but Titans face, re-
sembles an Adamants vertue, to brave lone by affection, and
not kill Love with rejecting, (and more) it is impossible, that
she should couer a flintie heart, with a smiling face, for I know
the vertue of Venus mollifies the heart of Titana: why then
Theseus what needst thou feare, shew thy selfe as valiant a
Prince to Titana, as thou hast done in former time to Mars,
and returned victor of the field, when thou wast beset with
millions of foes, and wilt thou now feare the repulse of a wo-
man, and being thy lone-love? no thou shalt scale the walls, and
lay batterie to the fairest: and with that he stept out of the
Arbour with a modest behauiour, and full resolution, takes
her by the hand, and withall dimples his cheekes, with a lone-

The Historie of

His seile, as loue giues louers direction: (and thus begins).
 Faire Titana, ever since I could conceiue one Amorous
 thought, or cast a wanton eye on beauties perfection, I haue
 remained imburthened with the essence of your beautie, and
 wounded with the vicerous soze of your loue: therefore, faire
 Lady, reiect me not with disdain, because I approach with
 cortisie: and as our two aged Fathers liues in peacefull ami-
 tie, so let vs combine a marriagemall unitie, it will not onely
 be a comfort to them, but also an eternall toy to vs: Titana
 resting, and meditating a while, at last bepaints her cheekes
 with a maiden blush, and thus replies.

Since Theseus, this is very strange to me, that such in-
 ordinate passions of loue, should so farre ouerflow her thoyes
 on the sudden, being no Rhome nor spring to be the cause:
 therefore Theseus, surely this is not loue, these are but fained
 strions to trie simplicitie: inluring baits, to catch fond folly in
 wanton snares: for Demophoon was faire by nature, but
 proued false to Phillis: Aeneas was a brave man, but as
 false as Almider: yet were their protested bolws, greater then
 common hearts can conceiue: Therefore Theseus suppress
 thy passions, and leaue to loue Titana, for she cannot loue
 this againe, she is like the starre Artophilax, that is beauti-
 ons to the eye, but fit for no vse, even so is Titana, tust opposite
 against Nature: well still she keeps him at the staffes length,
 and sets her still on the greene bancke where he found her;
 shadowing her yielding passions with denying frotnes.

Theseus, who all this while had marke, and viewed each
 limmit of her body, and the feature of her face, thought it very
 strange, that Nature should indow so faire a face, with so hard
 a heart, such comely limmits, with such peruerse conditions:
 at last thus beganne to prosecute his cause againe in these
 tearmes.

Faire Titana, bee not proude of beauties painting, for it is
 but a Summers flower, the Winter fades it, and those which
 disaine in youth, are despised in age: therefore faire Lady,
 make

Titana, and Theseus.

makes not a Goddess of beauty, but yelds me love, for love,
and let not the destinies cause me to dispaire, now in the ver-
dencie of my blooming youth. Titana sitting still on y^e bank,
(as it were) not regarding him, thus begins. Theseus, I
commend thine exceeding wit, but in this case, I pittie thy
distresse, and for the extremitie of love thou bearest to me, I
vow thee recompence; but with contract I dare not promise,
therefore good Theseus, suppress those passions, which now
thy mind perplexed with.

Theseus standing a while, commenting in this dull per-
plexitie, scarcely dares touchlate to give an answer, or de-
mand a remedie, yet saide he, opportunities neglected are
signes of follie, therefore he beganne againe in these
 termes,

Titana, the sadall doubts of cruell death, is not so feared
of me, but I dare extend my life with fortunes fate, to enjoy
thy love: why then faire Lady, sith I am so wounded with
your love, yeld to my request, which is within the bounds of
modestie desired: If I were lascivious, demanding vncleane
desires, to use thee as a Conubine, then mightst thou justly
be puerse & say me nay: or were I a Begger, or a base boyme
vassell, of no desert, or reputation title, then would I hold it
unlucky: or came I like a Scythian Shepheard, with my
shepewoke on my neck: But comming like a Grecian Prince,
with my Scepter in my hand, demanding love with a chaste
devotion, methinks you should not be so puerse, to denie so
kind a demand. Quoth Titana, good Theseus be not so te-
dious, for to be shy in termes, I will not grant thee love;
for love is the only thing I hate, therefore trouble me no more
with such frivolous speeches, if you please to accompany me,
as in former time you have done, you shall be y^e welcomest
man in Greece: but if you replie with such like speeches as love,
I rather desire your absence, then your presence.

Theseus hearing her still in that stoward denying vaine,
quite expels hope, and included dispaire: and thus beganne
he.

The Historie of

he, which scarcely found beginning. *Oh* wretched and dispa-
ring wretch: *Isolane*, and of *Titana* forsaken, worse then the
ferocious *Hans* in *Achaia*, more base then the *Simie* earth under
neath thy feet: more in bondage, then *Tunissian* gally slaves,
more basant on earth, then *Indians* in *Arabia*, and more wret-
ched then *Progne* in her transformation: to by how canst thou
thus metamorphosed being a Kings sonne: (oh with loue) with
loue, of that ingratefull *Titana*, to had I not loth'd *Titana*,
she had not caus'd my vntimely death, but in restoring my ad-
uersie fortune, with thy peruerse obstinacie, she end my life:
and with that he vnheates his fatall Engine and sayd thus:
Faire Lady, as like *Camelian*, I haue liued by the *Ayrie* es-
sence of thy loue: so like faithfull *Theseus* by thy hate ile die:
He lets the point of his sword to his brest. *Titana* seeing
him so desperate, lightly, shipt from off the bancke whereon
she sat, and suddenly takes him by the hand which held his
sword, and thus beganne.

Theseus, art thou a Prince, and a Kings sonne, a warrior,
and *Grecians* Champion: and wilt at a wenchs froline ruine
thy body, and bring the aged Fathers gray haies, with griefe
vnto his grave, and lay his carefull head, on a relesse pillow?
remember this, thou art heire apparant vnto thy Fathers
Crowne, and Kingdome; and by thy well liuing, thy Fathers
daies are prolonged on earth, but by thy ill dying, with griefe
they are soone ended: why then know this brave *Theseus*,
wenches will most denie, the thing they most desire; & some
most peruerse, where most they loue; and prone most con-
stant, where they seeme most wauering (and so will I, my
loue) although I sained a crowne, yet detested I to hate, and
though my tongue sayd no, my heart protested I. Where-
fore sweete *Theseus*, impute me not peruerse, for the heauens
knowes, I shame to expresse, how proude I haue bene of
Theseus loue, yet would I not say *Theseus* I loue thee:
because then thou might'st repute me immodest, being a Lady,
but the Gods both know, I haue honoured *Theseus* with a
zealous

Titana, and Theseus.

zealous deuotion, and I loued Theseus with as dutifull affection, as Titana could performe, as Theseus desire: therefore sweete lone, thinke not I yeeld with vngent prayers, but with the force of lone.

Theseus noting her behauiour, and hearing such vnexpeted tearmes, and fogred assurances of Titana, which made such pleasing harmony in his halfe dead eares, was halfe ramished, & wholly reuiued to his former senses: sheathed his satall blade againe, embracing her in his armes, layd battery to her scarlet lips, with many a fogred kisse he giues assault and winnes the Foxt: In bzieste, they suddenly combin'd, and fully accomplished a monumentall contract, so that after many louely embracings, and pleasing wanton loyes, (as lone hath many) they parted for y time, so fraught with inordinate loy, that it is impossible for the capacite of man to looke so high as their loy did raise reboundes.

Foxtone now enuyng their good acts, turnes her withéle, and as she had dimpled her cheekes, so now she wrinckled her forehead, and breéled the destinies, for in *Acchaia* there dwelt Oenie, which every yere did sacrifice the firstlings of his floze: the which he first assigned of his coyne, and fruits to Ceres: to Bacchus the first pressing of his wine: and vnto *Pallas* *Oliffe-oyle*, and thus honouring the Gods of grains, and fruite, he offered franckinlence, but at *Dianaes* Altars none was offered, hee ouer-slipt them, the which *Diana* toke in high disuaine, & sayd, he shall not scape unpunished, though he past mine Altars vnworshipped, nor haunt of his escape breuenged, if I be a Goddesse he plague him and his fruits, and with that away she flies: and on the next moone, she sent a huge over-grown Boare to Oenies ground, such as she like had neuer yet bene seene. This grády Boare deuoured his Coyne, and grasse, and rent his Vines vnto the ground: and not so sufficed but beganne to over-runne, and deuoure the Countrie of *Acchaia*: in so much that the Husbandman had laboured in vaine, he over-runne their Lambs, Chaps, and

The Historie of

Heards of his, may men, women, and childen, went daily in danger, of this opened swines deadly Calles.

In so much, that the people of *Achaia* preferred supplications to *Aegius*, *Meleagar*, and *Theseus*, and many other Kings, Dukes, Lords, and Knights, to desire their ayde to conquer this mercilesse Hogge: the which they all were very willing and affable, but *Theseus*: yet he saide *J.* although he could haue wish't it no: for the reason that moued him rather to haue stayed at home, then haue gone was this: he was newly returned from his loye *Titana*, and they had both agreed to make their Fathers acquainted with their loues on the next day following, which was the day appointed; that this Princely knot should mee't and accompany each other, to the force, of the *Achaians* foe: *Theseus* very much discontent with this newes, could haue sained himselfe sick, and staid at home, but his heart was so enobled with valour, that it would suffer excuse to take no place: hee seeing no remedie, but goe he must, being that renowned King *Meleagar*, with his royall troopes of valiant Knights, accompanied with his Father *Aegius* were come, he like *Iason*, when he ventured for *Medea*, or *Hercules* for *Deianira*, or like *Turnus*, before he went to his bloody fight, armed and enobled himselfe with valour: which done, hee accompanied this Princely knot of noble Knights, euen to the very byrke of his owne aduerse fortune, where heele leane him barreling the destinies, and turne to *Meleagar* the carler of his grie't: who being upholden with the wings of fortune, reaped the plentiful harvest, of a renowned encounter, by the winning a famous victorie. *Meleagar* with the rest of valiant Knights, theye his luckie Duke against this opened swine, who being more potent with fortune's fauour, then impotent with *Diana's* frowne, gaue this Boar his deadly wound: this being done, though old in yeares, yet young in conceit, for with pride merely, of his fortunate stroke, he presently fell into amorous teakes, with *Atalanta*, *Schoenies* Daughter of *Tegae*:
and

Titana, and Theseus.

and suddenly stripping to the Swine, said thus :

Oh Lady *Atalanta*,
receivethou this my fee :
And of my glorie, vouch thou safe,
partaker for to bee.

And with that gave her the head of the Swine.

THIS Ladie for the givers sake was as glad in heart, as for the gift, and received it very thankfully : but the rest repinde that she such honour had, and armes displayd, that all the field might easily see, and heare, their murmuring discontent : Plexippus, and Toxey cried : Dame, lay downe this geare, doe we take the toyle, and thou the honour of our Game : no, no let that faire smooth face of thine beguile thee, least he that being boated in thy love, and giving thee our fee, be oversarre to rescue thee: and with that word they took the gift away from her, and right of gift from him.

Nooth Meleagar, with a fierce and fierce looking countenance, you Theseus race, learns this from me, and doe not other folkes dispoyle of honour given, for Princes gifts are free, of none to be relected : and Princes words are lawes, of none to be v'srped. Wherefoze Plexippus, what difference is betwixt your threats and deedes, he with this weapon trie : & with that he suddenly strikes him through the brest with his Boze speare. Toxey seeing his Brother slaine, and doubting what way to take, desiring to revenge his Brothers blood, yet fearing to be murdered as his Brother was befoze, and amazedly commenting : Meleagar, to dispatch his doubtfull mizes, bzeto his safall swozd and slew him for company of his Brother Plexippus, whose blood was hardly cold as yet.

This bloudie prospect, bzed such a mutinie amongst them, that their arms displayd on both sides, in so much that the two houses, Meleagar, and Argeus, fell to a civill discension, and much blood was spilt on both sides : and not onely these two

houses

The Historie of

houses of Meleagar, and Aegeus, but almost all *Greece*, *Acchaia*, and *Calidon* was in an uproare, for each took armes against other, and bring renowned and famous Princes, friends took parts, and they beganne to bandie, and overrunne each others Dominions.

This disagreement betwene the Parents, although it was a heart breaking to these two lovers, Titana, and Theseus, yet did it not at all disparage their affection, but the greater the mutinie, the deeper was the impression of their mindes, and by this meanes their libertie was confinde, and meeting places quite debard, yet love being a private searcher of secrets, found a time and opportunitie, which gave them place, time, and leave to parle, to play and display each others mindes: when these two lovers came together, they were in feare, and danger to be espied, which caused them one while, to sigh, sobbe, lament, and grieve; another while, kisse, smile, laugh, and toy: and thus they spent the time as pleasantly as distressed lovers could doe, yet they swore to each other, & their Fathers dissention should never seperate their loves, nor adverse fortune should diminish their affections, but would remaine to full unto death, in despite of the hatefull destinies: having thus recounted each others loves to their hearts content, yet seeing they could not enjoy the full fruition of their loves in *Greece*, nor *Acchaia*. Theseus determined as soon as time and opportunitie gave him leave, to provide a masse of money, and Jewells for the easier carriage: and so transport themselves into *Spaine*, to *Tunis*: and there to live a contented life, not knowne, but as a *Grecian* Knight, untill he heard of some united peace betwixt their Fathers, else by succession to enjoy their Kingdomes: Tirana hearing his determinate course, commended highly his wittie device, (and sayd thus) Faire love, if thy father Aegeus should take me within his pressenche it were death, or at least perpetuall imprisonment, and againe on the other side, if my father Meleagar, should take thee in his Dominions, it were the like danger for thee to come

Titana, and Theseus.

comes into. But if my father should heare of this contract, his fury would be such, that his forlorne death were too easie for both, first you for presumption, then I for simplicitie, and so we shall bite both on the destinies bide. Therefore I write Theseus, make hast with all expedition, & provide all things fitting for our Voyage, for delay breeds danger, and falls for tune despite. Theseus being fraught with boundlesse joy, and prickt forward with lones desire, did protest unto her allone as opportunitie gave him leane, he would provide such necessities as were fitting for their Voyage, so resting upon this resolution, and night beginning to listen to their complement: after many embracings, payed, and repayed kisses they parted. Theseus having taken the leave of his best beloved Titana, returns him backe againe to his fathers Court: which being there arrived, cald unto him, an ancient servant of his fathers, whose name was Iunia: this Iunia being a faithfull servant, and Theseus approved friend, he thought him not lesse then fitting to employ about this his secret presence. Theseus deposing confident trust in him, declared the whole volume of his minde unto him, from the beginning to the end: Iunia, hearing him so fully bent, and determinately resolved on this imparfet course: beganne to disswade, & divert him to the contrarie, alledging divers instant inconveniencies: Theseus being so determinate in his pretence beganne to reject Iunia for his folly in disswading him, and told him he did not call nor disclose his minde unto him, to aske his advice, or to be intercepted by him, but the cause he had him there present, was this, he did repose trust unto him, and impose this secret business on him, to provide a small bark, or binnis to transport them into *Spaine*, with monies and certaine Jewells and such like commodities for the easier carriage: which if he could provide and make readie against such a time he would reward him royally for his paines.

Iunia hearing this, that there was no perswasion would take effect, or instant examples to the contrarie divert him,

The Historie of

and withall respecting the Princes bountifull promise beganne to yield vnto him, and in the end promised him to provide all things readie for their Voyage within the space of fortye daies at the furthest. Theseus hearing this direct answere and promise of Iunia, was exceedingly fraught with ioy, in so much, that to shew his bountie, and binde him vnto his promise, he sent him away very richly rewarded, where tole he leane him promising for the Voyage, and turne to Meleagar.

Fortune, who had already layde her traine, so destined, that it utterly brake the united bands of these two Lovers fathers combine League, and almost to the separating of their love, with heart-breaking: yet not so content, intending as she had given them a slender checke, so now she should give them a cruell blow; and to bring her pretence to be managed with perfection, she layd her plot in this wise.

Meleagar, walking privately in his Garden, commenting on his Daughter Titana, brake out his passions in these tearmes; Meleagar, thou hast but one onely Daughter, and she is now about the yeres of 23. and she is a Prince so richly deckt, and adorned with the gifts of Nature, so fraught with beautie, and vertuous qualities, that she is not onely a comfort to thee, but also a ioy to thy poore Commons: why then, place all thy ioy in her perfection, and sith she is now marriageable, provide her a husband that is equiualent with her: when he had thus passioned a while, he sate him downe vnder a Pomstherne Tree, to meditate on whom he might bestow his Daughter Titana: till at last, he called to minde great Ambrosia, king of *Portugal*, who in former time had bin brought vp together for the space of seaven yeares in Schoole: and knowing this Ambrosia to haue a Sonne, whose name was Pirismus, who was faire by Nature, royall by birth, by vertues famous, and by possessions rich: presently sends an embassadoe to the king of *Portugall*, to intreate a marriage betwix his Daughter Titana, and his Sonne Pirismus. Ambrosia hearing this, was exceedingly fraught with ioy and
told

Titana, and Theseus.

told the Embassadors. It was his decree before they came, to have sent to their King Meleagar, concerning the same matter, but sith they were so happily come, he told them his name was ready, and his Sonne Pirismus should along with them to *Calidon*, and if God did permit him, he would be there with them, within his fortnight dayes. The Embassadors having received their answers, and the Prince toyed his flirts, the Warriors hoisted their maine sailes, weighed anchor, and sailed into the deepe.

Fortune favouring Theseus destiny, opens the windows of *Aeolus*, and gives them a full winde, which in a short space arrived them on the shores of *Acchaia*: being so fortunately arrived, they instantly retired to the Court with the young Prince Pirismus, and made report to Meleagar of Ambrosiaes answers, and how he had sent his Sonne as a pledge in the meane while. When Meleagar heard that was Ambrosiaes Sonne, he seemed very angry they did not send him word of their coming, that he might have received him in a more princelike manner, but seeing it was now too late, to recall what was past, he saluted him very submissively, and told him he was very sorry he knew not of his coming, so that he had, he would have met him by the way. Well after these, and such like words, Meleagar takes him about the middle, and leads him into his private Chamber, causing the Nobles to attend them, where as Titana sat a solwing. Quoth Meleagar, young Prince Pirismus, behold, there sits mine onely Daughter Titana, my chiefest joy, and the originall cause of your Wrongs hither, and if you please to acquaint your selfe with her you may. Quoth Pirismus, my noble Liege, with your leave else not. Quoth Meleagar, young prince, you have our leave, to do your pleasure. Quoth Pirismus with a low obeysance, thanks my noble Liege, and with that steps unto Titana, takes her by the hand, and thus begins: Faire Lady, if a *Disgrace* Prince, may bough life so bold to be, as to preferre a rough unpollisht touch, unto those soft lips of yours,

The Historie of

yours, without offence, my desire is accomplished, other wise my fate is cold. Titana seeing him a stranger, and hearing such inordinate tearmes proceede from him, was halfe in a misdoubt that her father had brought him, to be a later in a cause that was already overthrotne, and damages reconcred, yet hoping the best, though fearing the worst, with a low curtseie, she thus replies, noble Knight, as your request is small, it is the easier granted; againe, if I should by deniall refuse it, you might easily appeach me with: with that he gives her a kisse, which she very thankfully receiued, and accompanied him vnto her father, the which did greatly reioyce the King, her father: by this time there was a table furnished with such cates, and dainties, as could at so small a warning be provided. Meleagar sitting downe, caused Pirismus to sit on the same side which he late on, and Titana to sit on the other side, right opposite against him, because they should take a full view of each other, the which Pirismus did, in so much that her persecution dinted so deepe an impression in his heart, that none but Titana could satisfie, the Amoz of Pirismus eye: when he was thus solemnly, and sumptuously feasted, and royally entertained; and so entertained, that if Ambrosia had bene there himselfe in person, having so small warning, they could not receiue him with more triumphant royaltie. After they had thus sufficiently pass the day in sumptuous feasts, and banquets: the King gave command he should be attended on to his lodging, & all his Lords, Knights, and Gentlemen, and their followers appointed their lodgings, and attended also: which being done and all departed, Meleagar calls for Titana, and thus brake his minde vnto her.

Titana, my gray-haires sounds an alarme, and calls me to my grave: therefore actions measured by time, are seldeome bitten with repentance; thou art young, and I am old, my white haire is fading blossomes, and thy fresh colour is blooming flowers, mine preparing to die, and thine repairing to liue: (therefore Titana) I take care, and tell thee as a father, hoping

Titana, and Theseus.

hoping thou wilt give care, and obey as a Child. The chief thing I have taken care for, and desired, hath bene to see thee happily married before I die, or thou grow old.

Titana, hearing her fathers counsaile, and marking well his words, beganne to seele which way the winde fate, and at last perswaded her selfe in her opinion, as this, that her father had chosen this young Prince Pirismus to be her spouse; fearing to displease her father, yet swearing and vowing not to forsake Theseus, made him this answer.

May it please your Grace, to give me leave to speake? Quoth Melcagar, we give you free leave. Quoth Titana, Sir, there is no greater bonde then dutie, nor no stricter law then Nature: for often disobedient youth, are despised in age, and Parents wills are lawes; therefore, rather then by default, I should be appeached of disobedience, I will rest content to love, although it be the onely thing I hate: If it may please your Highnes to appoint whom I shall love.

Melcagar hearing this unexpected answer of his Daughter, and seeing how light she accounted of love, beganne to be very hot and chollerike, and with a frowning countenance, made her this hasty answer.

What Titana, canst thou not love? why, doth the civill passion of pride desires, overcome thee with franticke forwardnesse, or perversish perversenesse? or dost thou thinke thy selfe a young Phoenix, that there is none to equall thee? Ah Titana, take heed, least high Pride, bring low povertie; and young disobedience, aged repentance: the Tree Alpia wasteth not with fire, but withereth with death, and that which love nourisheth not, hate perissheth.

Well, yield Titana to thy Fathers perswasions, which may prevent all after perills; thou seest I am olde, and full of gray haire, daily walking on the brincke of my grave, ready to fall in every houre, and thou beire apparant to my Crowne, after my decease, shalt succede my kingdom, in more triumphant Throne, then ere thy father Melcagar did in his youngest yeares: knowing this, thou being young in yeares,

and

and

The Historie of

and scarce governeſſe of thine owne diſpoſitions, it would be a greater trouble, & a heavier burthen, to be ſo over-ſeet with the charge of a whole Kingdom, to govern and looke ſo: therefore helpe and eaſe thee of thy burthen, and increaſe thee with ioy, I have choſen thee a husband here, the Prince Pirismus, thou ſaſt here erewhile, he is a Prince, faire by nature, royall by birth, by vertues famous, and by poſſeſſions rich: therefore if thou like Pirismus, thou haſt my content, and in loving him, thou ſhalt have my love, otherwiſe an everlaſting hate.

Tirana ſtanding a while, called to mind that Theſeus did purpoſe to take his Voyage to *Tunis* very ſhortly, where ſhe determined to arrive with him, and therefore ſhe thought it was as good for her to ſay ſhe loved him, and keepe her fathers good will, as ſay ſhe could not love him, and have his ill will: and againe, ſhe thought this, if ſhe ſhould be perverſe and ſay him nay, it might be a meanes in her fathers anger, to make him ſuſpect, and miſdoubt ſome other matters, and ſo looke moze nearer unto her, and ſo be a hinderance to her departure with Theſeus: therefore ſhe determined to yield with wordes unto her fathers deſire, and thus beſpake him, with a low courteſie:

Father, I obey your command, as a child, hoping to enjoy your love as a father: and if Pirismus can love Tirana, Tirana will love Pirismus; but pray father thinke not, but that I yield with love, and not with your perſwaſions: and pleaſe you to appoint the nuptiall day, I will be ready to accompliſh what you pleaſe to impoſe on me.

Quoth Meleagar, now haſt thou wonne my heart, and ſhalt enjoy my love, Ile make thee rich by poſſeſſions, and happy by marriage, Ile indow thee with wealth, and Pirismus with love; I ioy to ſee thee toward, and hate to ſee thee perverſe: now ſhall my gray-haires enjoy a reſt, which long hath bene diſturbed with care; ſo after theſe, and many other ſuch like ſpeeches, he appointed her the nuptiall day, which ſhould be at Ambroſacs coming: Tirana being mindfull of her true love

Theſeus,

Titana, and Theseus.

Theseus, was sorely troubled in minde, because her father had appointed the time within so short a space, she was fearful that Theseus could not provide all things for their Voyage so soon, yet bearing it out with a good countenance, she lookt pleasantly in the sight of her father, and determined, if things were not ready soon enough, she would faine some excuse, to prorogue the time: well for that time, they departed, and betooke them to their rest: on the morrow morning, Meleagar was stirring very early, and calls to him, his chiefe Admirall, and commaunds him to provide a flete of his chiefeest ships, and furnish them with men and Ordnance, and all things else fitting to receive a Prince; he being no lesse then willing to fulfill the Kings joyfull determination, very speedily prepared all things fitting for their Voyage, took his Embassage of the King, and suddenly boarded the *Paule*, hoisted many sailes, weyghed anchoys, and away they cut through the deepe, where woe leave them to the favour of the winde, and the Seas.

Meleagar, having sent his Embassadors for the King of *Portugall*, calls his Nobles, and chiefe Officers together, and told them, that the tenth day of that present moneth should be the *Soptiall* day: and had them proclaim a feast, Jousts, and *Tornies*, and invite all their neighbour Princes, with the chiefe of his owne Dominions; and that it was Meleagars command and will, the Court gates should stand open, and receive all comers for the space of twentie daies; as well for the royall entertainment of Ambrosia, as for honour of his Countrey: his Nobles being no lesse then willing to further his pretence, very diligently according to the Kings commands, prepared all things in a readines: where woe leave them attending Ambrosias coming, and turne to Titana: who in the sight her new lorne Pirismus, seemed no lesse then fraught with the wanton feaks of lorne, to leade that joyfull soule into a purblind paradise, where in the end she meant to leave him champng of Cupids battle: and in her fathers sight, she seemed so abundant in her lorne, that she almost made

The Historie of

his gray-haires begins afresh to bud, and blome forth youth-
full blossoms againe, in so much that it is impossible to con-
ceine the inward ioy, that he receiued by their outward ioy-
ing; and though she forst her selfe to be ioyous and pleasant
in her fathers, and Pirismus presence, yet was she forst to
hateful melancholly, and hateful griele in their absence: well,
it happened that in few dayes after, there came netues to Me-
leagars Court, that Ambrosia was come within two dayes
sailing of *Calidon*, and by contraries winds forst to cast an-
choe, and lie there for the winds returne. Meleagar hearing
this netues, caused a flote of his best ships to be made re-
adie; which being done, he himselfe, and Pirismus with others,
boarded the flote, and Titana should haue gone too, but she
was unwilling to crosse her submisle Loue, with aduersse
hate, caused a tempestuous storme to rise, in so much that the
very sight of Neptunes frownes cast her into a despairing
teare, the which her father seeing, caused her to returne to the
Court againe, and they toke their Voyage towards Am-
brosia, where tolele leave them to their fortune, and turne to
Titana againe.

Who being so long absented from her loue Theseus, and
so often presented with her hated Pirismus, like a tree Lower
discontented, desired to walke and sit alone to meditate; on the
back side of her fathers Pallace, there was a very large Gar-
den, which had diuers doores to enter in at; this Garden was
the place, where Theseus did use to meete her, which place
she held most conuenient, and sit for her to passion out her
griefes: when the after noone came, she walked all alone into
the Garden, vnto the wonted place where Theseus was
wont full often to embrace her, with many lonely kisses, ho-
ping that the Gods seeing her distresse, would relieue her
want, as they had bene witnesses to her vowes, so she hoped
they would be fauourers to her pretence: and thus walkt she
a while commenting in those dull perplexities, till at last, her
passions were so vrged with her, she could no longer suppress
them, but late her downe on a greene banck, and burst out her
passions

Titana, and Theseus.

passions in these tearmes.

Ab Titana, thou unfortunate wretch, art thou a Kings Daughter, and line thou a slave to Cupid? better wert thou a country wench, to enjoy their lonely pleasure; then a courtly mistress, thus wapt in sorrowful miserie: now must thou for the destinies plague thee, for thy disobedience. Ah sigh Titana, draw by the thole two chrysalis fountains, from whence these pearled streamers descends, to overflow these tender cheeks of thine: lone Pirismus, and in loving him thou lovest thy selfe. Ah no, I dare not; Pirismus no: tis Theseus, and none but Theseus shall have my true love: Ah woe that thou art, to sit so fondly; thou knowest Theseus is a *Grecian*, and *Greekes* thy fathers foes: then wicke to thy fathers election, and lone Pirismus, for in loving him thou shalt enjoy the worlds content. Ah no, I have made my sollemne vowes to Theseus, and will keepe them, tis not worldly content alone that I desire, but Theseus love, the patron of my meditating thoughts, the Couch of my wearie ioyntures rest, and the Crowne of my earthly all glory.

When shee had thus breathed forth her solitarie passions, from the grey moone, soothered even, Zephir beganne to draw the melancholly curtaines of possonous night, which caused Titana to depart, which having taken her leave of the Dyrge, and Lemmon Trees, which onely did accompany her all that day, returns to her chamber againe, where she immures her selfe in contemplation.

It hapned that in two dayes after, her father, Ambrosa, Pirismus, and all their followers arrived on *Calidon Shores*: and Wagons, Drums, and Trumpets were poulded, with sweet perfumes, and frankincense, the streets were swarmed for their passage, which greatly pleased Ambrosa: so that they suddenly arrived at Meleagars Court, where they were most sumptuously entertained with banquets, and feasting, which being done, Meleagar willing to make knowne by outward shewes, how he was possess with inward ioyes: leapt from his chaire of state, and fetcht his Daughter Tita-

The Historie of

na, leading her into Ambrosaes presence by the middle: Titana seeing her supposed here, fained on him a smile, and with all to grace the dimples of her cheekes, she giues them a comely and modest blush, and with a low and reuerent courtesie, she did obeysence to King Ambrosia, the which he seeing, suddenly leapt to her, took her in his armes, and lovingly embzaff her, with many courteous, and royall speeches, Pirismus who had all this while marked her behaviour, blest his fortune, and thank the Gods for his good access: when he had so done, he thought himselfe to haue most right to her, took her aside to the further side of the Room where he spotted his blind folly, and caught at shadows, yet to his hearts content, and both their Fathers increased ioy: but alas to poore Titanas heart breaking, though she fained a smile in her fathers presence, yet was she fozt to weepe in his absence: Meleagar was so fraught with ioy, that he thought every day a yeare that his Daughter went vnmarrried, yet past he fire daies more in keeping Ambrosia company, and shewing him the pastimes and pleasures that he chiefly took delight in: in the meane time he called to him his chiefe Officers, and Nobles, & demaunds if all things were ready for the Nuptiall; the which they all answered, *Y.* When Meleagar heard that, he was very ioyfull, and presently makes Ambrosia, Pirismus, and Titana acquainted with his pretence (which was this) that on the seventh day following, being the sixtene day of the moneth, he did purpose to accomplish the marriage betwixt Pirismus and Titana, the which they all seemed to be very ioyfull & glad of, save onely Titana, yet she seemed no lesse then ioyfull in the sight of her Father, but in her chamber she passioned whole riuers of teares from her chrystall eyes, where weale leane her to the fauour of the Gods, and turne to Theus;

Who all this while, hath bene very buisie, and laborious in his carefull affaires, and having accomplished his business, finisheth his purpose, and lays the ship ready in the Haven, is very desirous to speake with his loue Titana, but his father being present, he could find no opportunitie sitting to make an escape

Titana, and Theseus.

escape smyth, which byende hateful melancholly, in so much that he immed by himselfe in his chamber, to sollicit sadnesse, fortune smiling at his folly, dandled him once again on her indulgent kinde: It hapned at that instant, a Noble man of Aegaeus Court, riding through a Forrest, that was some eight miles distant from *Athens*, espied a wilde Boare, and knowing the King loved the sport of hunting, as well as the one halfe of his Kingdome, came riding post to the King, and made report of his busines: the King hearing him, caused sudden preparation to be made, he having a very faire Dallas standing in the midst of that Forrest, determined to go thither to bed that night, the which preparation being made, and all things readie, he calls for Theseus, but he had heard some taling of his fathers hunting prograce, and how he was upon going, sained himselfe sick, and took phisicke: when word was brought to the King that Theseus could not goe, he demaunded the occasion, they answered he was not well, he took phisicke. The King hearing that newes and loth to delay time, and so lose his sport, called his Nobles about him, where they mounted their Horses, and rode towards the Forrest, where woe leave them to their sport, and turne to Titana;

Who now hath little hope to enjoy Theseus love, for the five dayes are almost expired, and the seventh is the nuptiall day appointed, which was the next day following, yet being the last day of her hope, she went one morning to walke in the Garden to seeke her Theseus, bearing a sharpe Engine in her hand, determining with herselfe, that as she had made her vowes to Theseus, none should enjoy her love but Theseus: and where she did protest those vowes to Theseus, there she meant to sacrifice her blood to the Gods for Theseus sake, where woe leave her.

Theseus hearing his father was gone, puts on a disguised sute of apparell, and secretly conueyes himselfe forth at the Court-gates by Iuniaes meanes, determining neuer to come in againe, sends Iunia to the Haven, where the Ship lay, and causeth

The Historie of

caused him to attend his coming there : which done, he walkes towards the Court of Melicagar, which was at that time neere adjoining to the Citie of Athens : he being arrived at the Court, suddenly makes meanes to enter the garden : which being entred, he walkes to the farther side, where he was wont to meete his Love Titana : he was no sooner approacht, but he espied her where she sat, leaning her head on her hand, as though she had bene a sleepe : he no lesse then glad to see her, began to step hastily to her, but even as he was ready to touch her, he perceived that she was weeping and lamenting very grievously to her selfe : breathing out her passions in these tearmes ;

Oh unfortunate Titana, and therefore unfortunate to each, borne under the bestines displeasure, and therefore cross with Fortunes frowns, bound to Theseus by love, therefore pincht with care by fate : yet Theseus, Ah sweet Theseus, my dearer farre, then my selfe is to my selfe, and none shall be slower mee of his virgins Ruse, except this fatal Engine ; Alth protestations, vowes, and bonds are made, and sealed with the sweare of Loves sweet lips, tis Theseus, and none but Theseus shall enjoy my Love.

Theseus, seeing her in that dull perplexitie, and so metamorphosed, stood astonish'd at the sight, and had not the power to goe backward nor forward, he was driven to such an exigent : faine he would goe backe to lose the sight of so grievous a prospect, and fainer goe to her, to knowe the cause, and take redresse, yet could he doe neither, but stood still in a dull extasie, halfe dead with griefe : till at the last she remov'd her head, and lookt up after a mournfull fashion, as Phillis lookt for Demophoon ; and casting aside her blubbered eyes, she espied her Theseus : she rose off the banks whereon she sat making her complaints : she towe away her fatal engine, took him about the necke and kiss him, smiled, and thus bespake him ; Ah Theseus, arte thou come to prosecute my weale or woe ? (Quoth Theseus) thy weale I hope, with harts content sweet Love : but I pray thee sweet hart, what's the occasion of these thy

Titana, and Theseus.

thy presumbling passions, thus sob'd with sourcing teares: Oh
 I saw Titana; suffer Fortune, hath cast me into adverse per-
 plexities: so; since thou departedst from these sweete embraces
 of mine, Fortune hath frowned on our pretence (quoth
 Theseus, how sweete Love?) Titana fained to smile, yet sob-
 ced to weep, thus began:

Oh Theseus, my Father sent Ambassadors to Ambrosia
 King of *Portugall*, to intreate a marriage betwene his Sonne
 Pirismus, and thy loue Titana; his father being as willing
 to yield, as my father to demand: presently sends ouer his son
 Pirismus, as a pledge of his promise, by the returne of my fa-
 thers Embassadors, and now is come himselfe to accomplish
 the match: when my father heard the returne of his Embas-
 sage, and saw Pirismus, he called me to him, where he opened
 the whole volumn of his pretence, perswading me of the Prin-
 ces intire loue, his rare accomplishments, and how happie I
 was to enjoy the loue of so rich a friend, with many such capti-
 fall perswasions; in so much that in the end, I did reply this
 obstinate answer: I could not loue, it was the onely thing
 that I did hate: with such like words, that at last he fell from
 kind perswasions, and fell into thundring threats, and in such
 franticke manner, that I durst no longer withstand him, but
 gave consent, and promised to be ready whensoever he plea-
 sed to appoint the time, the which he was very ioyfull to heare,
 and appointed the Nuptiall to be the sixteenth day of this
 moneth, which is this next day following: yet good Theseus
 account not my behaviour light, though I haue promised loue
 to two men at once: but know this vaine loue, it is but one is
 stedfastly to abide, the other but falsely to delude: so; if I
 should haue stode obstinate, and peruerse denying him; then
 should I haue had his perpetuall hate, and in hauing his hate,
 like poore Loue with Argus should still be watcht and lookt
 after, that I the harder should finde opportunitie to depart
 with thee to *Tunis*: therefore to auoide suspicion, I made him
 a fained promise, but still bzane Theseus resting at thy com-
 mand, and obeying as thy hand-maide ile line and die with
 thee;

The Historie of

thee; and with that takes him about the necke, and both so pay and repay him with kisses, that shee halfe smothers him. Theseus heard her politike answer, hearing her willie reply, and seeing her lone so constant; much commended her wit, but more pittied her grieffe, desired her to patience, and wishing her not to be so passionate, promised her that every teare that she had for him spent, should from him returne tenne thousand loyes againe: and quoth Theseus I have provided a ship, and all things necessarie for our passage, which lies ready in the haven, and if you are ready and willing, now there is a fit gale of winde to transport vs from the *Grecian* shores to *Tunis*. Quoth Titana, my deere love, it is the onely thing I desire, though fire and water to follow thee sweete Theseus. Quoth Theseus, faire Titana, this night about the hours of twelue, I will come and meete thee here, for then I hold it the best time to depart without inspition of any, therefore sweete heart make no delays, nether for Jewells, or rich aray, least that we permitting this opportunitie, may stay long for the like againe, for I have all things needfull already provided. Titana hearing this ioyfull tidings, was exceedingly fraught with boundlesse ioy, thinking that every houre before night came would prove a yeare, in so much that the time being appointed, and fearefull to be espied in their private parley, after many louely enterchanges, and sweete eclipsed lips, they parted, where woele leave them a while ruminating on their ensuing fortunes, and turne to Pirismus.

Who now is providing Roobs for the *spuall*, which I doubt will prove his funerall, yet lone being so urgent with him, it casts a mist before the eyes of his folly, in so much, that he thinks every smile that Titana lends him, is a promise of perfection: but alas! poore soule, that such insancie should rest in such experienced yeeres: but tis not to be marvelled at, for Cupid doth greater miracles then this some times, for hee lozeth the bond slave to lone, and blinds his eyes with folly: he makes the yong old, and the old become yong againe; hee clears the aged eyes, and makes the youthfull dim: therefore blame

Titana, and Theseus.

blame I not Pirismus, nor yet commend him, but as he deserves, so let fortune: tribute her favours unto him, where she will leave him a spectator to his adverse hopes, and turne to Titana:

Who being mindfull of her promise to Theseus, as soon as the Court was quiet, and every man betooke him to his rest, Titana very carefully had respect that none might see, nor heare her, stayed till the deave time of the night, which was much about the houre that Theseus had appointed her to come: she hearing no noise, nor seeing no light throughout all the Court, having a doore that opened into the Garden, she secretly unlocks it, and away she goes to the wonted place, where she finds Theseus attending her coming, and without any great circumstance take her by the arme, and led her forth at a backe gate that Titana had given him the key on before, where his man Iunia stayed his coming with his Gelbing: he suddenly mounted on his horse backe, took Titana by behind him, and rode to the haven where the ship lay, which was about a mile distant from that place; he no sooner came there, but the Parriners were ready with their Cock-boats to receive them aboard: where being coucht together in a Cabbin, they pass away the time in recounting their old loves, till their man Iunia came: he had no sooner boarded the ship, but the Parriners hoisting their mainmastes, weighed anchor & sailed into the deep, where she leaves them to the favour of the winds and the Seas, and returne to Meleagar, and the Bydogdome Pirismus.

The morne being come, and Phoebeus saluted the day with his glorious Beames: Pirismus starts him from the embraces of his bed, to rouse Titana from her nightly couch; he being entred her chamber, and saw she was stirring before him, and forsaken her chamber, he thus beganne:

What hungry fiend, or croaking night wrenne, durst be so bold as to disturbe my Titana from her rest, till I Pirismus gave her the Bon Iour.

What lowing Beast, or bleating Lamb-kin, durst attempt

The Historie of

my lone Titana: herself, before that I bestowed the merrings Salutation on her.

What Sithian Shepheard durst be so bold, with his hopes and cries, to fright my Titana from her nasine sleep, before I enterchanged a kisse with her, to embrace this Raptall mozne?

What Indian Ravens, and Grecian Larkes, what Canarie-finch, or Silver Swannes durst with their harmoniall tunes intice my lone from forth her bed before I came?

But yet me thinks, I see no hate proceede from fourth their chirping blasts, therefore surely thou dost misconceiue them: for thy lone is gone to recreate her selfe in the Garden this fresh mozne: and is espied by these louing creatures; and to adorne her, and her Raptall, they all accord, striking the sweete relaces of their consoyted tunes, to giue the heauens an Echo of their ioy, and thy Titana the harmonie of so happie a day.

When he had thus passioned a while, he was returning forth of her chamber againe, when as he was parting, comes Melcagar, calling hastily for his Daughter Titana, and meeting Pirismus, asked him for Titana, who answered, she was not in her chamber: Melcagar returning againe enquired, and sent about the Court & Garden to seek her, but no newes could be heard of her, in so much that in the end Melcagar beganne to feare some ill was betide her, and that she had bene walking late, and so was taken by some of Aegeus men and kept prisoner: well this conceit took such effect, that he sends Embassadors to Aegeus Court, to demand the question, if Titana were taken prisoner by any of his Souldiers, who had an answer no: returning againe, told Melcagar their answer: they had no sooner deliuered their message, but there comes a post from Aegeus Court, to demand if they had not taken Theseus prisoner, the which had his answer deliuered him, in the same manner, no: which done, he returnes againe. Melcagar, who thought to haue ceased, and made a triumphant Raptall; now cast off his sumptuous Roabs, and

Titana, and Theseus.

and put on mourning weeds, and in stead of delicious feeding, imbraceth mournfull fasting: Pirismus, who sed on the bea-
tie of Titana, as the Camelion feeds on the aire, was franti-
cke, at this sudden extasse. Ambrosia from his aged eyes shed
many teares, to see Meleagar so grieved, and his Sonne so
impatient: the goests that were invited, at this sudden change
were cast into dumps, and full perplexities, in so much that
you might haue pass through the Court, ten and ten, and hard-
ly haue heard a word spoken, but haue seen many a weeping
eye, which held for the space of foure daies; the fift day he cau-
sed proclamation to be made, that whosoever could but bring
tidings where Titana is, w^h what is become of her, he would
bestow a lining on him worth a hundred pound a yeare, in-
during his life: this being proclaimed, at that time, there was
a Sailor that should haue gone in the ship with them, but he
had some hindrance, he being south of the ship when Theseus
and Titana boarded it, he staid some thing long, and The-
seus and his loue, thought it seuen yere till they were put
from the shore, least fortune should chance to betwix their
pretence, he would stay no longer, but commanded them to
put off and lanch into the daps: so that this Sailor was left
behind, and hearing this great promise of the King, determi-
ned to goe instantly, and informe the King of his departure:
but you must note this, he bid it more for the benefit of the
lining, then to certifie the King: he being arrived at the
Court, made meanes to come to the speech of the King, he
being in presence, did his dutie, and as farre as he could
he vnfolded the matter, in every point: the King hearing
how it was, and that she was gone with Theseus, beganne
to be in an exceeding great rage, in so much that the Sailor
with himselfe fourth of his presence, though he neuer had his
gift: yet the King being a noble Prince, bestowed his
promise on him, and sent him away a topfull man.

Meleagar, though he heard tidings of his Daughter, yet
could it no whit perswade him to patience, but rather kindled

The Historie of

the hot fire of warre against *Agemus* for a reuenge, because he had but one only daughter, and she to be carried away by an enemies sonne. *Agemus* missing his sonne *Theseus*, and hearing that he was gone with *Meleagars* daughter *Titana*, he swore a bloudie reuenge on *Meleagar*: and thus the two fathers fell into bloudy passions, in so much that all *Achaia*, *Calidon*, and *Greece* were vpinarmies against each other, where twice they a while, and turne to *Pirismus*.

After hearing of the ingratefull departure of *Titana*, presently betakes him to his chamber, where he satte ruminating on her, and her departure with *Theseus*, in so much that he perswaded himselfe neuer to returne to *Portugall* againe. With *Titana* had deceived him: well, he being as it were halfe franticke, grew carelesse what became of himselfe, and in this discontented humour sitting alone in his chamber, thus breathed out his passions:

Titanaes loue, did lend thee life,
Titanaes hate, will cause thy death:
Titanaes parting, hath sharpt the knife,
 That now must stop thy vitall breath.
Titana farwell, for loue I die,
 As here these lines, will testifie.

When he had thus passioned a while, he braves his fatall Engine, and stabs himselfe: when *Meleagar* and *Ambrosia* were sitting at dinner, *Pirismus* was called for, but he could not be found, in the end they lookt in his chamber, where they found him most grievously murdered: newes was presently carried to the kings table, who hearing of this pittious tidings, caused him to be brought into the presence, and sent for Doctors, and Surgeons, but all in vaine, for he was quite gone, and past all recovery: they seeing no helpe, caused preparation for the funerall, which all things being in a readinesse, those neighbour Princes which were invited to the Funerall, were now intreated to his funerall:
 these

Titana, and Theseus.

these solemne obsequies, and funerall being ended, every man took his leave, and departed: but Ambrosia stayed, till the beginning of the next moneth, and when the time came, he departed towards *Portugall*, with a heavier heart then he came towards *Greece*: withall, when he had taken his leave of *Meleagar*, he boarded the fléete, weighed anchors, and away they cut through the surge, where would leave him and turne to *Titana*, and *Theseus*.

Whom fortune begins to sport her selfe, in their adversities, for as she had smiled on them a while, and given them a full winde sitting to transport them to the haven of their desire: so now she meant to frowne on them, and give them a Calme; when as they lay thus becalmed, fortune who loves to sport her selfe in the variable accidents of love, brought it thus to passe: certaine Gallies that were Robbers under the french King, espied this *Grecian* ship, and thinking to have some rich praye, made out, and gave onset, commanding them to yield: the *Grecians* being calme could not make away from them, yet although so weak, *Theseus* stoutly denied to be boarded, and sought it out to the utmost: yet in the end they boarded the ship, and bestored *Titana* and *Theseus* under the hatches amongst the Sayers, and then rifled the ship of all their rich Jewells: which done, they took the Sayers and caried them into the Gallies, and chained them fast, and made Galli-slaves of them, when they had so done, they took *Theseus* into one of the Gallies, but the chiefe commanded that they should offer no rigoz at all unto him, for he saw by his behaviour, that he was of good birth and parentage, which made him the more favourable unto him. *Theseus* desired of the generall that he would entertaine or suffer *Titana* to come into the Gallie to him, and fare as he fared, they both desired, and intreated, but it could not be granted, which caused poyze *Titanaes* eyes all blottered with teares, and almost dead wth feare, and grieve, but all would not prevaile: the chiefe generall sent halfe a dosen shakerags with the ship and her to *Rome*, where they stript her out of her Princely robes,

and

The Historie of

and put her into beggers Raggas, and when they came to the shore, they gave her three duckets and turned her off there in a strange Countie, that she neither knew their Language, nor had she any friends there: but with her fortune was so allotted unto her, for her alone part she took it very patiently, but when she called to minde her Theseus she wept bitterly, but with there was no remedie, she meant to passe, and spend her life in Pilgrimage, where woele leave her travelling towards *Italie*, and turne to Theseus:

Whose chiefe soliciter is carefull grise, for his poore lone Titana, and is for it so line as a rowing Pirate on the seas: it hapned about six moneths after they chaunced to meete with some Merchants of *Venice*, on whom these Pirates gave on set, these Merchants being well provided, breathed defiance on them, at which these Pirates took great disdaine and discharged vpon them, the Merchants seeing that, beganne to play vpon them, Peace, after Peace, so long that in the end, they overcame them, and took two of their Gallies: in which two, Theseus and Iunia were Prisoners in: fortune favouring Theseus for Titanaes sake, beate her Target of defence before him, that he escaped with life, but Iunia was slaine. When the Merchants had thus rifled the Gallies, being nere the coast of *Bohemia*, sent the Gallie-slaves, and others that were Prisoners in the Gallies, to the shores side, and set them a land to shift for themselves, then had Theseus but halfe a Ducket to buy him meate & drinke, and his cloathes were but simple Raggas God knowes, yet glad he was that he was so happily landed, but yet poore Titana, the very thought of her, strake him halfe dead, he determined never to returne unlesse he met with his lone Titana, but would spend his life in Pilgrimage till death claimed his right: where woele leave him travelling into *Germanie*, and turne to Meleagar.

Who is in the field with troupes of souldiers, waging warre against Egeus: but his mother envying him, for killing her two Brothers, Plexipus, and Toxic, had sworne

Titana, and Theseus.

on him to be revenged, yet studied she a long time, and knew not how to be cruell enough in her revenge, till in the end, she called to minde a bzand that the destinies put in the fire, when she lay in child-bed of Meleagar: which bzand was of this merueillefse force, and power, by the destinies charmes, that when this bzand was in the fire burnt, Meleagar should consume and burne to ashes, for the destinies spurne his fatall thzard at his birth day, and did put this bzand in the fire, to take him the first day of his birth: but Althoea, to prevent it, took it forth againe, and layd it by very charitable, till now she meant to make use of it, as thus.

Meleagar, being in the field against Aegeus, in fierce and cruell battell, and having given an overthrow to Aegeus, there was great reioycing, and Bonfires made throughout all *Calidon*, with ringing Bells, and such like. Theseus Daughter seeing so much woode layde on the fire for Meleagar, and to shew her the love they beare to the King her Sonne: she thought whilst the fire was burning to bestow one sticke on him, to shew the hate she bare to him, although she did for company with him herselfe, she cared not, so she might be revenged on him: after this bethought her selfe, she slepts to a chest where she safely had layd this bzand, and takes it forth, and with a zeale to mischief, stretcht out her fatall arme, and throw it in the fire, which being done, she thus began:

Behold yee triple Goddesses

Of wrecke, yee Helhounds three:

Behold you all this furious fact,

And sacrifice of me.

I wrecke and doe against all right,

With death, must death be payde:

On mischief, mischief must be heapt,

On course, must course be layde.

Confounded let this wicked house,

With heaped sorrowes be:

Shall Oome ioyn his happie Sonne,

¶

In

The Historie of

In honour for the see:
And *Theſties* morne bereft of his,
Nay better yet it were,
That each with other company,
In mourning you should beare:
Now brothers ghosts and soules new dead,
I wish no more, but you
To feele the solemne obsequies,
Which I prepare as now.

This sayd.

She turnd away her face,
And with a trembling hand;
Did cast amid the fire,
This death-full burning brand.

MEleagar being absent, and buſied about his warlike af-
faires, thinks not of his mothers crueltie, but follow-
ing his buſy occaſions, with very attentive care, it
happned not long after as hee was walking alone to recreate
himſelfe, upon the ſudden he felt an excreame paine in his bel-
ly, it waſt more and more, inſomuch, that he did plainly per-
ceiue that his bowells burnt with flames of ſecret fire, but yet
denied he to die, but bare it out with a princely courage, for
it grieved him to die ſo cowardly without shedding his blood:
yet death being ſo predominate, and potent ouer him, hee be-
ganne to weep, and with ſighing ſobs, called on his aged fa-
ther, which with age lay bedded ſeuene yeares beſore, and
then with griefe departed; then called he on his brother, and
his ſiſters, and laſtly on his maſter, by this time his paine in-
creaſed ſo extreme with the fire, that hee fell therewith a-
gaine, and at that ſelfe ſame inſtant quite extinguiſht were
they both: and as his body burnt to aſhes, the glowing coales
blew his ſpirit from him beſore. Then drowped ſtately *Calidon*, both
young and old did mourne, the *Kings* and *Commons* did la-
ment,

Titana, and Theseus.

ment, and married twines their haire like frantickes rent from off their heads, for griefe of King Meleagars death:

The folke of *Calidon* not so sufficed, gathers the ashes of his consumed body, and entombs them vp, and makes a solempne Funerall; may the blackest dismall day that ere was knotome in *Calidon*, or *Acchaia*, and on his Tombe, engraves an Epitaph to this effect.

The Epitaph.

Heere lies the famous King of *Calidon*,
Which for his fame the worlds mirror woone,
That *Achaian* land can say, though he be gone,
Foule fall the Author, of this mothers doome:
Who passeth by, and chance these lines to read,
Curse them that caus'd *Meleagar* lie heere dead.



After this done, every man returns & gains to his abiding place. *Arges* hearing that *Meleagar* was dead, provides a great host of men, and marcheth towards *Calidon*, and over-runnes their Camps, and puts their Souldiers to the sword, so that in a short space he gets the chiefe part of *Calidon*, and still innades further into the Countrie, and much blood hath bene spilt, and a great deale more is like to be, but the winter being come, they have left the field and lie now in *Carilon* till the next spring, where twaine leave them, and turne to *Titana*.

Who now hath spent full foure yeares in Pilgrimage, from Countrie, to Countrie, in very poore manner, and now it was her fortune to come into *Germanie*, and as she was travelling by into the Countrie, she chanc'd to come to *Fuesen*, where be-

The Historie of

ing late, she purposed to lie there all that night, yet knowing not how to get a lodging, for she had no money, sat downe and wept bitterly: as she thus sat washing her tender cheekes, with salt brinie teares, the high Constable of *Fuesen* was passing by, and saw a young Maide sit lamenting, and wringing her hands in such grievous manner, pittied her, and demanded of her what she was, and of whence: she answered she was a Gentlemans Daughter of *Athens*: he demanded what she made so farre from home then, and how she came there: she which she answered, that there was a young Gentleman of the same Title that was in love with her, and she with him, but their Parents would not give consent, whereupon we determined to transport our selves into *Spaine*, where we both have friends, and there to enjoy the fruition of our loves, as we were passing from *Greece* to *Spaine*, we met with Pirats that rised and robbed us of all we had, set me on land in *France*, and carried my love away, I know not whither: and these, all these, griefes am I possesed withall. The high Constable pittied her very much, asked her if she could write, and reade, she answered *I*, he demanded if she could sew, she said *I*: quoth the high Constable, wilt thou be content to dwell with me, & teach my children for a yeare or two, or longer as thou shalt thinke good; *Tirana* being wearie of travelling, and was ashamed to goe begge, thought she could not doe better then to serve him, till she had gotten money and clothes to her back, answered him she was very wel content, if it pleased him to except of her services: the which he answered very willingly with all his heart, so he caused her to follow him home, where he instantly strips her out of ragges, and put her on good apparell, which done, she settles herselfe very closely to her needle, and teacheth his children, that in short time, she grew famous for her womanship, civill, modest, and Gentlewoman like behaviour, in so much that she might have had divers wealthy and rich marriages, onely upon the good report that was spread abroad of her, but still she refused all, and would except of none, yet all this time she never made it knowne,

Titana, and Theseus.

knowne, that she was a Kings Daughter, but kept it close, neuer meaning to reueale it, but still following her businesse, with carefull diligence, where woe leasus her, and turne to Theseus:

Who being in very poore estate, is entertained by the Lands-graue of *Heston*: and seruing him so space the of thre yeres, greatly grew in credite with him, in so much that he would doe nothing without the aduice of his man Pirigrino, (so he sained his name to be) the Lands-graue taking such an extraoꝝdinarie liking vnto him, (as truely to say the truth, he deserued the loue of all: neuer had any Iusts, & Cornies, but his Pirigrino should be one, & still did put them to the soile, whatsoeuer they were that waged against him, in so much, that in few yeres he beganne to be admired of all; not onely so his rare feats at Armes, but also so his Gentleman like accomplishments, ciuill, and modest behauiour: that in the end, the Landf-graue beganne to misseout that he came of some Noble descent, and by some discontent parted with his Countrie, and went as a Pilgrime to seeke his fortune: well, it hapned not long after, he took an occasion to walke after supper, in a Garden that stode on the backe side of his Palace, which meaning to demaunde of his man, what Countreman he was, and of what Parentage; calls for his Pirigrino, and charged him to tell him the truth of a question he meant to aske him. Pirigrino maruelling at this sudden charge, answered thus: My dread Soueraigne, as nere as I can I will certifie you with the truth, (quoth the Graue) but this then, tell of what Parentage thou comest on, and what was the occasion of thy comming into this Countrie: for thou toldst me thou wast a *Grecian* boyne: (Quoth Pirigrino) my Soueraigne Lord truly so I am, and my father was a poore Gentleman, and the occasion that I came hither was this: there was a Gentlewoman dwelling in *Athens* whom I dearly loved, and so did she me, I being a younger brother, and had but small meanes to maintaine her, her friends being rich, would not giue consent at all; we having but little hope

The Historie of

to enjoy the fruition of our lones in *Greece*, provided a little *Barks* to transport our selves into *Spaine*, which being done, as we were passing the *Strait*, there came certaine *Pirates* that were rowing on the *Sea*, and took vs, and robbed vs of all that we had: this done, they sent my lone away, towards the coast of *France*, and clapt me into a *Gally*, where I was forced to mannage an *Ower*, till I was releast by a *Venetian* Merchant, who landed me on the coast of *Bohemia*, and I purposing to spend my life in *Pilgrimage*, wandring vp and downe, it was my fortune to come hither, where I fortunately hapned into your seruice; he thus ending his speech wept very bitterly. The *Land-graue* being very sorry to see him weep and lament so bitterly, demaunded the occasion of his passions, who answered the losse of his lone. Quoth the *Land-graue*, come leane off this womanish weeping, and remaine with me, and thou shalt neuer want for any thing so long as I am able to giue thee: well after these and such like wordes, they departed to their rest.

At that instant, there was attendant in the house of *Alphonfus* the *Land-graue*, a young Gentlewoman whose name was *Impio*, this Gentlewoman came of very good *Parentage*, she wisely viewing, and noting the excellencie of *Pirgrinos* face, presently falls in loue with him, but hauing but small acquaintance, could not tell how to vnfolde her minde vnto him, but this she past the time, for the space of halfe a yere, and could find no time nor place sitting for to disclose her lone: till at last she watcht him when he went to walke in the *Garden* alone, and lightly skips after him, he espising her comming after him, returns againe and met, giuing her the time of the day, and she the like to him againe, so that in the end there pass and repast many questions betweene them: in so much that at last my young Gentlewoman mistresse *Impio*, grew so impudent with lone, that she could bzioler her passionate affection no longer, but desired him to sit downe on a greene banke that was by them, for she told him that she had good newes to tell him, he being no lesse then willing

Titana, and Theseus.

ling to heare good newes, according to her desire he late newes,
where suddenly she late dolone by him, where she declares the
whole volume of her minde vnto him. Pirigrino hearing her
so passionate in her termes, wondred much at these sudden
accidents, or what should be the occasion that should provoke
her to such inordinate teares, which in his conceit ouerflowed
the bounds of modestie, yet would he not leaue to reuert her
for her folly, but mildly perswaded her to be content and paci-
fic her selfe with patience, for he was already promised, yet he
he humbly thanks her for her good will, but grant her marri-
age he could not: yet she would not be so answered, but began
to persecute it fresh againe, and like Venus, when she wooed
Adonis, strone with him for a while, in so much that he asha-
med of her folly, flung away from her; Impio seeing
him gone, meant not to let him goe so, but on the next mor-
ning, she goes to his chamber, and in the like manner begins
again. Pirigrino seeing her, and hearing her in her old tune,
would not stay, but flings from her in an angrie tune; yet she
would not giue him ouer nor let him rest, but still would be
troubling and molesting him, in so much, that in the end, he
told her of her immodestie very sharply, and told her, that if she
came any more troubling him with the like matter againe, he
would declare her name to his Lord Alphonsus. Impio hea-
ring this heellie checke, and rebuke of Pirigrino whom she lo-
ued so dearly, turned now her love to hate, and as in former
time she had sought meanes to get his love, so now ten times
more busie she was, to seek meanes to destroy his life: Piri-
grino whose fortune had turned her whole life off with frowns
and smiles, meant once more, to cast him into aduerser pe-
rilitie, & for the better conueyance of it, she brought it thus
to passe.

At that instant there lay in *Fuesen* one of the Emperors of
Germanie, whom had to Daughter a very faire, and proper
young Gentlewoman: this Virgin being knowne to the Duke
of *Broonsweeke*, and he hauing but one onely Son, thought it a
good match for him, being reioyned in this opinion, very per-
duly

The Historie of

the sends Embassadors to this Emperour, to entreate a marriage betwene his Sonne, and his Daughter; the which the Emperour, being very willing, told them withall his heart, and bad them, pray him to come and accomplish it as soon as he could, for his business would be so urgent with him shortly, that he should hardly attend their coming else, they received their answers, and hasted backe to the Duke their Master, where they made report of their Embassage, when the Duke heard such joyfull things, with all expedition, he caused preparation for the Nuptiall, which being all finisht, and all things ready, they take their Iournie to the Emperours Court, being then in *Fuesen*. The Emperour hearing they were coming; invited diners of the chiefe of *Germanie*, to the Nuptiall: whereof *Alphonfus*, the Landf-graue of *Hessen* amongst the rest was one: well, within few daies after the Duke of *Broonswecke* arrived at the Emperours Court in *Fuesen*, this Nuptiall day being past, and their royaltie ended, *eric* man taking his leave of the Emperour departed, onely the Duke of *Broonswecke*, the Landf-graue of *Hessen*, and their followers.

It hapned in a short time after, *Pirigrino* being chiefe attendant on *Alphonfus*; and *Impio* on his faire Lady: fortune beganne to turne her wheele and raise an aduerse fate, on poore *submisive* *Pirigrino*, in this manner: this wicked lust sulphering *Impio*, whose heart was fraught with burning hate, had long studied how she might bring him to disgrace, or take his life from him, because he did reiect her, for her folly: in so much that in the end, she agreed thus; for to invite him to her chamber to Dinner, where if she could obtaine lone at his hands, it was as much as she desired, otherwise she meant to cry out, and say he would ravish her, and so by that meanes be reuenged on him: she being profoundly grounded on this hellish pretence, thought it long rare she were acting it: yet she considered this, that if she should doe so, having no witnes of it, it was but her self, and his no: and she saw that he was so in fauour, that he should be believed be-
soze

Titana, and Theseus.

soze her, therefore to bring her matter the better to passe, she hires a young man, and gives him fittie crownes to come and sweare against him: when she was thus provided of a witness, she invites Pirigrino to come the next day to Dinner: He thinking no hurt, nor imagined not the mischief she pretended to him, very courteously thanked her, and says he would make be to trouble her: with this answer she returned, and called this young man to her, and tolde him where he should stand to heare her, when she called him; and what he should say: well, this being done, on the next day according to promise, Pirigrino came to dinner, where they sate all alone, and were very merry all the Dinner time, when they had sufficiently alayed the hunger of there stomaches, she took away the table her selfe, and had none to attend her at all, which made Pirigrino muse much thereat, when she had thus taken away, and set things in order, she came to Pirigrino, and beganne her wanted tune againe, and againe, but still he denied her; yet would she take it so; no answer, but still importunes him so; lone, in so much that he beganne to be very angrie with her, and beganne to goe south of her chamber: she seeing no hope to obtaine love of him, she swore she would have his life: she steps to him againe, and thus he lets him. Then faire faced Pirigrino, canst thou denie a French that comes of gentle blood, no bassail nor runnagate, but bred and borne in gentilitie: therefore reade in the margin of my bowles and thou shalt see that thy birth is not equivoient with mine; thou knowest how my Lord of Passier entertained thee but the other day, as a Pilgrime that meant to spend his life in Pilgrimage, and wilt thou reiect me that am a Gentlewoman of good account? no, no, Pirigrino; remember thy selfe what thou wert when thou camst hither, and yeelde Impio lone. Pirigrino hearing her so insatiable in this vaine attempt, began to wjest away from her, to her upon she cried out, helpe, helpe; he will ravish me: with that steps in the young man that she had appointed to beare false witness against him, and cries out so; helpe I; which suddenly came running in diuers of the Court, and layd hands on him, and newes was carried to the Landgrave, and the Emperour, of Pirigrinoes sad: Alphonsus very sozrie to heare this tidings, yet would not seeke to excuse him, but suffered him to goe to prison, where he lay so; the space of sixe daies, the seventh, according to the order of their Law, he was had in examination; & so; the

The Historie of

ter himselfe, that he should haue no toryng: but when he heard howe euidently the matter was proued against him, by this yong fellowes meanes, that came in, and swore directly against him, he was very sorry, and faine would haue spoake for him, but that it was a fact that was so heinous, & not be forgiven, these Lawes were so strickt against it, when he had thus considered with himselfe, the greatnesse of the offence & the severenesse of their Law, he held his tongue and suffered the Law, to passe on him, which onerthrew him, and the sentence of death was pronounced against him, that the next market day, they should be in the midst of the market place, a stake erected: vnto which stake, he must be bound fast with Iron-chaines, and so done, fire kindled about him, and so borne to death: the Law having thus past on him, and the sentence of death pronounced against him, they carried him backe to prison, vntill the next market day, in the meane while they made ready the stake and set it in the midst of the market, and when the day came, according to there order they brought him to the place of execution, where was gathered together, two or three hundred to see him executed; he was so beloved that there was many a weeping eye for him, and cried out to the Shyreffes, saying it was great pittie so to haue a man should die for so small an offence, yet they could not doe withall, but caused him to be tied to the stake, which done, they layde straw and faggets about him, and were kindling the fire about him; yet did he smile and laugh on the people, and prayed them to pray for him, the which they did all very hartly, he provided himselfe to die: euen as the fire was kindling, there came riding by a Knight of *Athens* by chance, as he was travelling into *France*, espying a multitude of people gathered together, turnes his horse head, and rides to the place to see the occasion, when he came nere to the place, and seeing a man bound fast to the stake, beganne to looke very earnestly on him, in so much that in the end, he beganne to perswade himselfe that it was *Theseus*: thrust in amongst the people & thus spake, (*Prince Theseus*) *Theseus* suddenly lookt vp maruelling who was that which knew his name so perfectly, looking on this Knight called him to minde, and answered *Horatio*. Quoth the Knight *Horatio*, for so was his name: my Noble Prince, what make you here thus bound with chaines so nere your death. Quoth *Theseus* I haue bene falsely accused, & now condemned to die. *Horatio* intreated the Shyreffes to hold backe the

Titana, and Theseus.

he was, for he is a Kings Son, & falsely accused. The Executioners al-
though they were to have done the execution by an hour, yet for the
love they bore to him, they paid backe the fire: Horatio gallopt to
the Emperoz, & tolde him in few wordes that he knew not what, to
put a Kings Sonne to death vpon a false accusation, with such, and
such like wordes, he roughly bespake y^e Emperoz, without all feare
or reverence: in so much, that the Emperoz sent some of his chiefe
attendants with his priuie Signet to fetch him againe, to heare the
matter more plainly p^roued: the whilst they went to fetch him,
Horatio declared what he was and the occasion of his departure
from his owne Country. Quoth Alphonsus: he tolde me that was
the occasion of his departure, but he told me he was a Gentleman,
and a younge brother: by this time, the Emperozs men came to
the place of execution, where they declared his will and shewed the
Executioners, the Emperozs Signet for a signe and taken they should
bring him to the Emperozs Court: when they saw the Signet, they
knew it was the Emperozs will he should be brought, then they
caused him to be untied, which when the people heard of, there was
such casting vp of hats, howling & reioycing, as though Heauen and
Earth would haue gone together: when he came to the Court he
was examined againe of this matter, the which he utterly denied,
whereupon the fellow was called againe, that came in against him,
and demanded if this man were guiltie or no: he answered y^e. The
Emperoz would not be'ene him so, but would make a farther triall
of it, sends presently for a Hacke, foracke him, till he tolde y^e truth:
as soone as the Hacke came, the very feare, & sight of the Hack, made
him fall on his knees & confesse all: telling how Impio did hire him
to doe it & gaue him fiftie Crownes. The Emperoz and the Land-
graue hearing this, sends for Impio, who hearing y^e her knauery
was come out, gets her into her chamber, where she suddenly stran-
gles her selfe with a Towell: she being found there dead in this
manner, they were all very sorry, and desired Theseus to pardon
their basse & rash Iudgement, the which he freely pardon^d: this
being past y^e Emperoz, & the Land-graue intended to accompany
Theseus into Greece, & command a Flote of ships to be prepared
for this voyage. this newes being bruted about, that Pirigrino was
a Kings Sonne & of Greece: in so much, that in y^e end it came to Ti-
tanaes eare, who was halfe perswaded y^e it was her Theseus, well
yet she could not be quiet in minde till she saw him: the next day she
made an excuse to goe forth, & goes to the Emperozs Court.

The Historie of

long him directly, but stood still & lookt on him, & he did the like on her, till at last Theseus sayd Titana: when she heard him say so, she crept to him, & with ioy she wept, & he like did be, yet like two Turtle Doves they sweetly biled each other, when they had thus done, they made it knowne to the Emperoz & Alphonsus, that she was King Melegars daughter, & she was she, that the Pirates tooke from him: this newes byed moze admiration, and moze in *Fuesen*: this being past, the Ships ready and all things provided, the Emperoz cloaths them in very rich aray and causeth them to board the *Paris*, who did accompany them the Emperoz, the Duke of *Broonsweeke*, the Land-graue of *Hesten*, and diuers other knights, and Gentlemen of good account and reckoning: which being a full winde suddenly arrived in *Athens*. The King *Egeus* seeing such a flete of good ships comming began to misdoubt the worst, and sent out a *Pir* to see what they were, and to what intent they came: which returned him this answer; and shall please your Highnes, there is the Emperoz of *Germani*, the Duke of *Broonsweeke*, the Land-graue of *Hesten* and your Prince *Theseus*. *Aegeus* hearing that, nere staid to call any to attend him, neither to put on his Cloake; but ran to meete them, without Hat or Cloake. His Sonne *Theseus* comming foremost in the *Troop*, when he saw his father, fell down on his knees: the aged King stooped and tooke him vp in his armes and wept bitterly for ioy, having so done, he salutes *Titana*, and the rest in the courteous manner he could deuise. The Citizens hearing of their comming againe to the tow their ioy, made Bonfires, & shewes, with Bells ringing throughout all the Citie: the Courtiers and knights, appointed Jests, and Turnies, to signifye their willing minds, gratifying the kingsfortunate hap. *Aegeus* hearing of his Son *Theseus* aduerser hap since he departed from him; thought now to accomplish his ioy, caused preparation for the nuptial, which being done, & twenty daies fully expired in solempne feasting: the Emperoz, the Duke, and the Land-graue with their followers, tooke their leave & departed. *Aegeus* sent for his men that were in the field against the *Acharans*, & *Calidons*, proclaimed a small peace, & crowned *Theseus* King of these three Kingdomes, having this done, & finished all things as he could with, he gave his son charge of the well governing his estate, to keepe the hearts of his commons; after these & such like wordes he died, euen with once saying himselfe at *Theseus* returne: his father being dead, caused anerall to be made, which done his father intomben at his last home

Collated by
 1/7/35 R2